

This key should allow you to understand why you choose the option you did (beyond just getting a question right or wrong). More instructions on how to use this key can be found [here](#).

If you have a suggestion to make the keys better, please fill out the short survey [here](#).

*Note: This key is auto-generated and may contain issues and/or errors. The keys are reviewed after each exam to ensure grading is done accurately. If there are issues (like duplicate options), they are noted in the offline gradebook. The keys are a work-in-progress to give students as many resources to improve as possible.*

1. Perform the division below. Then, find the intervals that correspond to the quotient in the form  $ax^2 + bx + c$  and remainder  $r$ .

$$\frac{12x^3 + 39x^2 - 30}{x + 3}$$

The solution is  $12x^2 + 3x - 9 + \frac{-3}{x + 3}$ , which is option C.

- A.  $a \in [-38, -33], b \in [147, 149], c \in [-441, -436]$ , and  $r \in [1291, 1296]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number rather than bringing the first factor down.

- B.  $a \in [11, 13], b \in [75, 77], c \in [220, 232]$ , and  $r \in [644, 646]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor.

- C.  $a \in [11, 13], b \in [-3, 5], c \in [-12, -2]$ , and  $r \in [-7, 2]$ .

\* This is the solution!

- D.  $a \in [-38, -33], b \in [-70, -65], c \in [-207, -199]$ , and  $r \in [-654, -650]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor AND multiplied the first factor rather than just bringing it down.

- E.  $a \in [11, 13], b \in [-14, -8], c \in [29, 38]$ , and  $r \in [-181, -171]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number and subtracted rather than adding during synthetic division.

**General Comment:** Be sure to synthetically divide by the zero of the denominator! Also, make sure to include 0 placeholders for missing terms.

2. Factor the polynomial below completely. Then, choose the intervals the zeros of the polynomial belong to, where  $z_1 \leq z_2 \leq z_3$ . *To make the problem easier, all zeros are between -5 and 5.*

$$f(x) = 15x^3 - 44x^2 - 79x + 60$$

The solution is  $[-1.67, 0.6, 4]$ , which is option D.

- A.  $z_1 \in [-5, -2], z_2 \in [-0.9, -0.2]$ , and  $z_3 \in [0.92, 1.85]$

Distractor 1: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros.

- B.  $z_1 \in [-5, -2], z_2 \in [-2.2, -0.9]$ , and  $z_3 \in [0.42, 0.84]$

Distractor 3: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros AND inversing rational roots.

- C.  $z_1 \in [-0.6, 0.4], z_2 \in [1.1, 2.8]$ , and  $z_3 \in [3.7, 4.42]$

Distractor 2: Corresponds to inversing rational roots.

D.  $z_1 \in [-1.67, -0.67]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-0.3, 0.8]$ , and  $z_3 \in [3.7, 4.42]$

\* This is the solution!

E.  $z_1 \in [-5, -2]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-3.3, -2.1]$ , and  $z_3 \in [-0.02, 0.34]$

Distractor 4: Corresponds to moving factors from one rational to another.

**General Comment:** Remember to try the middle-most integers first as these normally are the zeros. Also, once you get it to a quadratic, you can use your other factoring techniques to finish factoring.

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3. Factor the polynomial below completely. Then, choose the intervals the zeros of the polynomial belong to, where  $z_1 \leq z_2 \leq z_3$ . *To make the problem easier, all zeros are between -5 and 5.*

$$f(x) = 10x^3 + 3x^2 - 79x - 60$$

The solution is  $[-2.5, -0.8, 3]$ , which is option C.

A.  $z_1 \in [-3.1, -2.7]$ ,  $z_2 \in [0, 0.71]$ , and  $z_3 \in [4.9, 5.12]$

Distractor 4: Corresponds to moving factors from one rational to another.

B.  $z_1 \in [-3.1, -2.7]$ ,  $z_2 \in [0, 0.71]$ , and  $z_3 \in [1.12, 1.66]$

Distractor 3: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros AND inversing rational roots.

C.  $z_1 \in [-2.8, -1.6]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-0.89, -0.5]$ , and  $z_3 \in [2.53, 3.23]$

\* This is the solution!

D.  $z_1 \in [-3.1, -2.7]$ ,  $z_2 \in [0.74, 1.16]$ , and  $z_3 \in [2.35, 2.78]$

Distractor 1: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros.

E.  $z_1 \in [-1.5, -0.9]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-0.58, -0.22]$ , and  $z_3 \in [2.53, 3.23]$

Distractor 2: Corresponds to inversing rational roots.

**General Comment:** Remember to try the middle-most integers first as these normally are the zeros. Also, once you get it to a quadratic, you can use your other factoring techniques to finish factoring.

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4. Perform the division below. Then, find the intervals that correspond to the quotient in the form  $ax^2 + bx + c$  and remainder  $r$ .

$$\frac{4x^3 - 75x - 129}{x - 5}$$

The solution is  $4x^2 + 20x + 25 + \frac{-4}{x - 5}$ , which is option E.

A.  $a \in [2, 7]$ ,  $b \in [12, 18]$ ,  $c \in [-14, -6]$ , and  $r \in [-181, -171]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number and subtracted rather than adding during synthetic division.

B.  $a \in [2, 7]$ ,  $b \in [-26, -14]$ ,  $c \in [21, 26]$ , and  $r \in [-257, -246]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor.

C.  $a \in [17, 22]$ ,  $b \in [-103, -96]$ ,  $c \in [424, 427]$ , and  $r \in [-2255, -2252]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor AND multiplied the first factor rather than just bringing it down.

D.  $a \in [17, 22]$ ,  $b \in [96, 105]$ ,  $c \in [424, 427]$ , and  $r \in [1992, 1999]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number rather than bringing the first factor down.

E.  $a \in [2, 7]$ ,  $b \in [17, 23]$ ,  $c \in [21, 26]$ , and  $r \in [-7, -3]$ .

\* This is the solution!

**General Comment:** Be sure to synthetically divide by the zero of the denominator! Also, make sure to include 0 placeholders for missing terms.

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5. Perform the division below. Then, find the intervals that correspond to the quotient in the form  $ax^2 + bx + c$  and remainder  $r$ .

$$\frac{20x^3 + 55x^2 - 30x - 43}{x + 3}$$

The solution is  $20x^2 - 5x - 15 + \frac{2}{x + 3}$ , which is option E.

A.  $a \in [-62, -56]$ ,  $b \in [-130, -124]$ ,  $c \in [-406, -400]$ , and  $r \in [-1263, -1256]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor AND multiplied the first factor rather than just bringing it down.

B.  $a \in [19, 26]$ ,  $b \in [111, 121]$ ,  $c \in [310, 319]$ , and  $r \in [898, 908]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor.

C.  $a \in [-62, -56]$ ,  $b \in [231, 237]$ ,  $c \in [-735, -733]$ , and  $r \in [2160, 2164]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number rather than bringing the first factor down.

D.  $a \in [19, 26]$ ,  $b \in [-26, -22]$ ,  $c \in [66, 73]$ , and  $r \in [-327, -319]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number and subtracted rather than adding during synthetic division.

E.  $a \in [19, 26]$ ,  $b \in [-6, -1]$ ,  $c \in [-18, -14]$ , and  $r \in [1, 8]$ .

\* This is the solution!

**General Comment:** Be sure to synthetically divide by the zero of the denominator!

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6. Factor the polynomial below completely, knowing that  $x - 5$  is a factor. Then, choose the intervals the zeros of the polynomial belong to, where  $z_1 \leq z_2 \leq z_3 \leq z_4$ . *To make the problem easier, all zeros are between -5 and 5.*

$$f(x) = 10x^4 - 113x^3 + 434x^2 - 655x + 300$$

The solution is  $[0.8, 2.5, 3, 5]$ , which is option C.

A.  $z_1 \in [-1.5, 0.7]$ ,  $z_2 \in [0.88, 2.15]$ ,  $z_3 \in [2.83, 3.07]$ , and  $z_4 \in [4.76, 5.22]$

Distractor 2: Corresponds to inverting rational roots.

B.  $z_1 \in [-6.1, -4.5]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-3.06, -1.3]$ ,  $z_3 \in [-1.58, -0.95]$ , and  $z_4 \in [-0.43, -0.37]$

Distractor 3: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros AND inverting rational roots.

C.  $z_1 \in [0.5, 0.9]$ ,  $z_2 \in [2.3, 2.76]$ ,  $z_3 \in [2.83, 3.07]$ , and  $z_4 \in [4.76, 5.22]$

\* This is the solution!

D.  $z_1 \in [-6.1, -4.5]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-3.06, -1.3]$ ,  $z_3 \in [-2.56, -2.44]$ , and  $z_4 \in [-0.91, -0.66]$

Distractor 1: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros.

E.  $z_1 \in [-6.1, -4.5]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-4.78, -3.6]$ ,  $z_3 \in [-3.23, -2.63]$ , and  $z_4 \in [-0.61, -0.48]$

Distractor 4: Corresponds to moving factors from one rational to another.

**General Comment:** Remember to try the middle-most integers first as these normally are the zeros. Also, once you get it to a quadratic, you can use your other factoring techniques to finish factoring.

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7. Factor the polynomial below completely, knowing that  $x - 2$  is a factor. Then, choose the intervals the zeros of the polynomial belong to, where  $z_1 \leq z_2 \leq z_3 \leq z_4$ . *To make the problem easier, all zeros are between -5 and 5.*

$$f(x) = 12x^4 - 83x^3 + 197x^2 - 188x + 60$$

The solution is  $[0.667, 1.25, 2, 3]$ , which is option E.

A.  $z_1 \in [-3.21, -2.92]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-2.11, -1.9]$ ,  $z_3 \in [-1.87, -1.4]$ , and  $z_4 \in [-0.97, -0.76]$

Distractor 3: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros AND inversing rational roots.

B.  $z_1 \in [-3.21, -2.92]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-2.11, -1.9]$ ,  $z_3 \in [-2.06, -1.61]$ , and  $z_4 \in [-0.48, -0.26]$

Distractor 4: Corresponds to moving factors from one rational to another.

C.  $z_1 \in [0.79, 1.04]$ ,  $z_2 \in [1.45, 1.69]$ ,  $z_3 \in [1.79, 2.39]$ , and  $z_4 \in [2.98, 3.13]$

Distractor 2: Corresponds to inversing rational roots.

D.  $z_1 \in [-3.21, -2.92]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-2.11, -1.9]$ ,  $z_3 \in [-1.42, -1.16]$ , and  $z_4 \in [-0.73, -0.63]$

Distractor 1: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros.

E.  $z_1 \in [0.42, 0.78]$ ,  $z_2 \in [0.65, 1.49]$ ,  $z_3 \in [1.79, 2.39]$ , and  $z_4 \in [2.98, 3.13]$

\* This is the solution!

**General Comment:** Remember to try the middle-most integers first as these normally are the zeros. Also, once you get it to a quadratic, you can use your other factoring techniques to finish factoring.

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8. Perform the division below. Then, find the intervals that correspond to the quotient in the form  $ax^2 + bx + c$  and remainder  $r$ .

$$\frac{10x^3 - 46x^2 + 40x + 22}{x - 3}$$

The solution is  $10x^2 - 16x - 8 + \frac{-2}{x - 3}$ , which is option B.

A.  $a \in [29, 35]$ ,  $b \in [41, 48]$ ,  $c \in [169, 174]$ , and  $r \in [534, 540]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number rather than bringing the first factor down.

B.  $a \in [10, 11]$ ,  $b \in [-18, -9]$ ,  $c \in [-8, -7]$ , and  $r \in [-5, 2]$ .

\* This is the solution!

C.  $a \in [10, 11]$ ,  $b \in [-76, -75]$ ,  $c \in [265, 271]$ , and  $r \in [-787, -778]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor.

D.  $a \in [29, 35]$ ,  $b \in [-137, -132]$ ,  $c \in [448, 452]$ , and  $r \in [-1326, -1315]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor AND multiplied the first factor rather than just bringing it down.

E.  $a \in [10, 11]$ ,  $b \in [-30, -22]$ ,  $c \in [-12, -9]$ , and  $r \in [-5, 2]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number and subtracted rather than adding during synthetic division.

**General Comment:** Be sure to synthetically divide by the zero of the denominator!

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9. What are the *possible Integer* roots of the polynomial below?

$$f(x) = 6x^2 + 7x + 7$$

The solution is  $\pm 1, \pm 7$ , which is option B.

A.  $\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 6$

Distractor 1: Corresponds to the plus or minus factors of  $a_1$  only.

B.  $\pm 1, \pm 7$

\* This is the solution **since we asked for the possible Integer roots!**

C. All combinations of:  $\frac{\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 6}{\pm 1, \pm 7}$

Distractor 3: Corresponds to the plus or minus of the inverse quotient ( $a_n/a_0$ ) of the factors.

D. All combinations of:  $\frac{\pm 1, \pm 7}{\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 6}$

This would have been the solution **if asked for the possible Rational roots!**

E. There is no formula or theorem that tells us all possible Integer roots.

Distractor 4: Corresponds to not recognizing Integers as a subset of Rationals.

**General Comment:** We have a way to find the possible Rational roots. The possible Integer roots are the Integers in this list.

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10. What are the *possible Integer* roots of the polynomial below?

$$f(x) = 6x^2 + 6x + 4$$

The solution is  $\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4$ , which is option A.

A.  $\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4$

\* This is the solution **since we asked for the possible Integer roots!**

B.  $\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 6$

Distractor 1: Corresponds to the plus or minus factors of  $a_1$  only.

C. All combinations of:  $\frac{\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 6}{\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4}$

Distractor 3: Corresponds to the plus or minus of the inverse quotient ( $a_n/a_0$ ) of the factors.

D. All combinations of:  $\frac{\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4}{\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 6}$

This would have been the solution **if asked for the possible Rational roots!**

E. There is no formula or theorem that tells us all possible Integer roots.

Distractor 4: Corresponds to not recognizing Integers as a subset of Rationals.

**General Comment:** We have a way to find the possible Rational roots. The possible Integer roots are the Integers in this list.

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11. Perform the division below. Then, find the intervals that correspond to the quotient in the form  $ax^2 + bx + c$  and remainder  $r$ .

$$\frac{20x^3 + 105x^2 - 128}{x + 5}$$

The solution is  $20x^2 + 5x - 25 + \frac{-3}{x + 5}$ , which is option B.

- A.  $a \in [19, 27], b \in [-15, -11], c \in [89, 92]$ , and  $r \in [-670, -662]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number and subtracted rather than adding during synthetic division.

- B.  $a \in [19, 27], b \in [2, 11], c \in [-30, -24]$ , and  $r \in [-7, -2]$ .

\* This is the solution!

- C.  $a \in [-105, -94], b \in [-397, -394], c \in [-1976, -1973]$ , and  $r \in [-10008, -9998]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor AND multiplied the first factor rather than just bringing it down.

- D.  $a \in [-105, -94], b \in [602, 607], c \in [-3027, -3024]$ , and  $r \in [14989, 15000]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number rather than bringing the first factor down.

- E.  $a \in [19, 27], b \in [203, 206], c \in [1023, 1026]$ , and  $r \in [4997, 5002]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor.

**General Comment:** Be sure to synthetically divide by the zero of the denominator! Also, make sure to include 0 placeholders for missing terms.

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12. Factor the polynomial below completely. Then, choose the intervals the zeros of the polynomial belong to, where  $z_1 \leq z_2 \leq z_3$ . *To make the problem easier, all zeros are between -5 and 5.*

$$f(x) = 10x^3 - 39x^2 - 61x + 30$$

The solution is  $[-1.5, 0.4, 5]$ , which is option A.

- A.  $z_1 \in [-2.4, -0.9], z_2 \in [0.36, 0.97]$ , and  $z_3 \in [4.87, 5.67]$

\* This is the solution!

- B.  $z_1 \in [-5.1, -4.1], z_2 \in [-0.78, -0.09]$ , and  $z_3 \in [0.97, 1.69]$

Distractor 1: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros.

- C.  $z_1 \in [-1.4, 0.1], z_2 \in [2.08, 3.12]$ , and  $z_3 \in [4.87, 5.67]$

Distractor 2: Corresponds to inverting rational roots.

- D.  $z_1 \in [-5.1, -4.1], z_2 \in [-3.19, -2.32]$ , and  $z_3 \in [0.45, 0.75]$

Distractor 3: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros AND inverting rational roots.

- E.  $z_1 \in [-5.1, -4.1], z_2 \in [-2.36, -1.87]$ , and  $z_3 \in [0.14, 0.36]$

Distractor 4: Corresponds to moving factors from one rational to another.

**General Comment:** Remember to try the middle-most integers first as these normally are the zeros. Also, once you get it to a quadratic, you can use your other factoring techniques to finish factoring.

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13. Factor the polynomial below completely. Then, choose the intervals the zeros of the polynomial belong to, where  $z_1 \leq z_2 \leq z_3$ . *To make the problem easier, all zeros are between -5 and 5.*

$$f(x) = 15x^3 - 1x^2 - 52x + 20$$

The solution is  $[-2, 0.4, 1.67]$ , which is option E.

- A.  $z_1 \in [-1.85, -1.24]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-0.43, -0.35]$ , and  $z_3 \in [1.81, 2.03]$

Distractor 1: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros.

- B.  $z_1 \in [-2.78, -2.35]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-0.6, -0.46]$ , and  $z_3 \in [1.81, 2.03]$

Distractor 3: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros AND inverting rational roots.

- C.  $z_1 \in [-5.02, -4.61]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-0.17, -0.02]$ , and  $z_3 \in [1.81, 2.03]$

Distractor 4: Corresponds to moving factors from one rational to another.

- D.  $z_1 \in [-2.33, -1.98]$ ,  $z_2 \in [0.59, 0.64]$ , and  $z_3 \in [2.15, 2.76]$

Distractor 2: Corresponds to inverting rational roots.

- E.  $z_1 \in [-2.33, -1.98]$ ,  $z_2 \in [0.38, 0.48]$ , and  $z_3 \in [1.36, 1.85]$

\* This is the solution!

**General Comment:** Remember to try the middle-most integers first as these normally are the zeros. Also, once you get it to a quadratic, you can use your other factoring techniques to finish factoring.

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14. Perform the division below. Then, find the intervals that correspond to the quotient in the form  $ax^2 + bx + c$  and remainder  $r$ .

$$\frac{8x^3 - 62x + 33}{x + 3}$$

The solution is  $8x^2 - 24x + 10 + \frac{3}{x + 3}$ , which is option E.

- A.  $a \in [4, 9]$ ,  $b \in [-39, -31]$ ,  $c \in [62, 69]$ , and  $r \in [-232, -225]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number and subtracted rather than adding during synthetic division.

- B.  $a \in [-27, -21]$ ,  $b \in [-72, -67]$ ,  $c \in [-280, -277]$ , and  $r \in [-804, -800]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor AND multiplied the first factor rather than just bringing it down.

- C.  $a \in [4, 9]$ ,  $b \in [20, 26]$ ,  $c \in [7, 15]$ , and  $r \in [58, 66]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor.

- D.  $a \in [-27, -21]$ ,  $b \in [71, 77]$ ,  $c \in [-280, -277]$ , and  $r \in [867, 868]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number rather than bringing the first factor down.

- E.  $a \in [4, 9]$ ,  $b \in [-28, -21]$ ,  $c \in [7, 15]$ , and  $r \in [2, 5]$ .

\* This is the solution!

**General Comment:** Be sure to synthetically divide by the zero of the denominator! Also, make sure to include 0 placeholders for missing terms.

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15. Perform the division below. Then, find the intervals that correspond to the quotient in the form  $ax^2 + bx + c$  and remainder  $r$ .

$$\frac{4x^3 - 22x^2 + 4x + 26}{x - 5}$$

The solution is  $4x^2 - 2x - 6 + \frac{-4}{x - 5}$ , which is option A.

- A.  $a \in [2, 5]$ ,  $b \in [-2, 2]$ ,  $c \in [-6, -5]$ , and  $r \in [-7, -1]$ .

\* This is the solution!

- B.  $a \in [20, 23]$ ,  $b \in [75, 79]$ ,  $c \in [394, 399]$ , and  $r \in [1991, 1997]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number rather than bringing the first factor down.

- C.  $a \in [2, 5]$ ,  $b \in [-8, -5]$ ,  $c \in [-24, -18]$ , and  $r \in [-58, -52]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number and subtracted rather than adding during synthetic division.

- D.  $a \in [2, 5]$ ,  $b \in [-43, -39]$ ,  $c \in [213, 221]$ , and  $r \in [-1044, -1043]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor.

- E.  $a \in [20, 23]$ ,  $b \in [-125, -115]$ ,  $c \in [610, 618]$ , and  $r \in [-3050, -3036]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor AND multiplied the first factor rather than just bringing it down.

**General Comment:** Be sure to synthetically divide by the zero of the denominator!

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16. Factor the polynomial below completely, knowing that  $x + 3$  is a factor. Then, choose the intervals the zeros of the polynomial belong to, where  $z_1 \leq z_2 \leq z_3 \leq z_4$ . *To make the problem easier, all zeros are between -5 and 5.*

$$f(x) = 4x^4 + 4x^3 - 51x^2 - 36x + 135$$

The solution is  $[-3, -2.5, 1.5, 3]$ , which is option A.

- A.  $z_1 \in [-5, 1]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-2.54, -2.45]$ ,  $z_3 \in [1.24, 1.53]$ , and  $z_4 \in [3, 4]$

\* This is the solution!

- B.  $z_1 \in [-5, 1]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-0.8, -0.68]$ ,  $z_3 \in [2.74, 3.16]$ , and  $z_4 \in [5, 7]$

Distractor 4: Corresponds to moving factors from one rational to another.

- C.  $z_1 \in [-5, 1]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-0.72, -0.56]$ ,  $z_3 \in [0.32, 0.59]$ , and  $z_4 \in [3, 4]$

Distractor 3: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros AND inversing rational roots.

- D.  $z_1 \in [-5, 1]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-0.5, -0.35]$ ,  $z_3 \in [0.42, 0.9]$ , and  $z_4 \in [3, 4]$

Distractor 2: Corresponds to inversing rational roots.

- E.  $z_1 \in [-5, 1]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-1.5, -1.46]$ ,  $z_3 \in [2.24, 2.69]$ , and  $z_4 \in [3, 4]$

Distractor 1: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros.



**General Comment:** Remember to try the middle-most integers first as these normally are the zeros. Also, once you get it to a quadratic, you can use your other factoring techniques to finish factoring.

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17. Factor the polynomial below completely, knowing that  $x + 4$  is a factor. Then, choose the intervals the zeros of the polynomial belong to, where  $z_1 \leq z_2 \leq z_3 \leq z_4$ . *To make the problem easier, all zeros are between -5 and 5.*

$$f(x) = 12x^4 + 101x^3 + 165x^2 - 248x - 240$$

The solution is  $[-5, -4, -0.75, 1.333]$ , which is option E.

- A.  $z_1 \in [-0.46, 0.02]$ ,  $z_2 \in [2.74, 3.09]$ ,  $z_3 \in [3.87, 4.03]$ , and  $z_4 \in [3.99, 5.65]$

Distractor 4: Corresponds to moving factors from one rational to another.

- B.  $z_1 \in [-5.22, -4.73]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-4.54, -3.29]$ ,  $z_3 \in [-2.25, -0.9]$ , and  $z_4 \in [-0.17, 1]$

Distractor 2: Corresponds to inverting rational roots.

- C.  $z_1 \in [-1.56, -0.95]$ ,  $z_2 \in [0.63, 0.84]$ ,  $z_3 \in [3.87, 4.03]$ , and  $z_4 \in [3.99, 5.65]$

Distractor 1: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros.

- D.  $z_1 \in [-0.96, -0.61]$ ,  $z_2 \in [1.26, 1.46]$ ,  $z_3 \in [3.87, 4.03]$ , and  $z_4 \in [3.99, 5.65]$

Distractor 3: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros AND inverting rational roots.

- E.  $z_1 \in [-5.22, -4.73]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-4.54, -3.29]$ ,  $z_3 \in [-1, -0.5]$ , and  $z_4 \in [0.79, 1.62]$

\* This is the solution!

**General Comment:** Remember to try the middle-most integers first as these normally are the zeros. Also, once you get it to a quadratic, you can use your other factoring techniques to finish factoring.

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18. Perform the division below. Then, find the intervals that correspond to the quotient in the form  $ax^2 + bx + c$  and remainder  $r$ .

$$\frac{25x^3 - 85x^2 + 15x + 40}{x - 3}$$

The solution is  $25x^2 - 10x - 15 + \frac{-5}{x - 3}$ , which is option E.

- A.  $a \in [73, 76]$ ,  $b \in [-314, -306]$ ,  $c \in [945, 951]$ , and  $r \in [-2795, -2791]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor AND multiplied the first factor rather than just bringing it down.

- B.  $a \in [25, 26]$ ,  $b \in [-163, -157]$ ,  $c \in [492, 496]$ , and  $r \in [-1445, -1441]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor.

- C.  $a \in [73, 76]$ ,  $b \in [136, 145]$ ,  $c \in [432, 438]$ , and  $r \in [1340, 1346]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number rather than bringing the first factor down.

- D.  $a \in [25, 26]$ ,  $b \in [-42, -31]$ ,  $c \in [-60, -51]$ , and  $r \in [-71, -65]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number and subtracted rather than adding during synthetic division.

- E.  $a \in [25, 26]$ ,  $b \in [-19, -9]$ ,  $c \in [-17, -12]$ , and  $r \in [-5, -1]$ .

\* This is the solution!

**General Comment:** Be sure to synthetically divide by the zero of the denominator!

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19. What are the *possible Integer* roots of the polynomial below?

$$f(x) = 3x^2 + 5x + 4$$

The solution is  $\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4$ , which is option A.

- A.  $\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4$

\* This is the solution **since we asked for the possible Integer roots!**

- B. All combinations of:  $\frac{\pm 1, \pm 3}{\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4}$

Distractor 3: Corresponds to the plus or minus of the inverse quotient ( $a_n/a_0$ ) of the factors.

- C. All combinations of:  $\frac{\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4}{\pm 1, \pm 3}$

This would have been the solution **if asked for the possible Rational roots!**

- D.  $\pm 1, \pm 3$

Distractor 1: Corresponds to the plus or minus factors of  $a_1$  only.

- E. There is no formula or theorem that tells us all possible Integer roots.

Distractor 4: Corresponds to not recognizing Integers as a subset of Rationals.

**General Comment:** We have a way to find the possible Rational roots. The possible Integer roots are the Integers in this list.

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20. What are the *possible Integer* roots of the polynomial below?

$$f(x) = 5x^2 + 5x + 2$$

The solution is  $\pm 1, \pm 2$ , which is option B.

- A. All combinations of:  $\frac{\pm 1, \pm 5}{\pm 1, \pm 2}$

Distractor 3: Corresponds to the plus or minus of the inverse quotient ( $a_n/a_0$ ) of the factors.

- B.  $\pm 1, \pm 2$

\* This is the solution **since we asked for the possible Integer roots!**

- C.  $\pm 1, \pm 5$

Distractor 1: Corresponds to the plus or minus factors of  $a_1$  only.

- D. All combinations of:  $\frac{\pm 1, \pm 2}{\pm 1, \pm 5}$

This would have been the solution **if asked for the possible Rational roots!**

- E. There is no formula or theorem that tells us all possible Integer roots.

Distractor 4: Corresponds to not recognizing Integers as a subset of Rationals.

**General Comment:** We have a way to find the possible Rational roots. The possible Integer roots are the Integers in this list.

---

21. Perform the division below. Then, find the intervals that correspond to the quotient in the form  $ax^2 + bx + c$  and remainder  $r$ .

$$\frac{16x^3 - 49x + 32}{x + 2}$$

The solution is  $16x^2 - 32x + 15 + \frac{2}{x+2}$ , which is option E.

- A.  $a \in [16, 18], b \in [31, 38], c \in [12, 17]$ , and  $r \in [59, 67]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor.

- B.  $a \in [-34, -25], b \in [-69, -63], c \in [-182, -175]$ , and  $r \in [-324, -318]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor AND multiplied the first factor rather than just bringing it down.

- C.  $a \in [-34, -25], b \in [57, 67], c \in [-182, -175]$ , and  $r \in [385, 392]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number rather than bringing the first factor down.

- D.  $a \in [16, 18], b \in [-49, -47], c \in [91, 99]$ , and  $r \in [-253, -246]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number and subtracted rather than adding during synthetic division.

- E.  $a \in [16, 18], b \in [-40, -28], c \in [12, 17]$ , and  $r \in [-1, 5]$ .

\* This is the solution!

**General Comment:** Be sure to synthetically divide by the zero of the denominator! Also, make sure to include 0 placeholders for missing terms.

---

22. Factor the polynomial below completely. Then, choose the intervals the zeros of the polynomial belong to, where  $z_1 \leq z_2 \leq z_3$ . *To make the problem easier, all zeros are between -5 and 5.*

$$f(x) = 6x^3 - 35x^2 + 66x - 40$$

The solution is  $[1.33, 2, 2.5]$ , which is option C.

- A.  $z_1 \in [-2.69, -2.1], z_2 \in [-3, -1.8]$ , and  $z_3 \in [-1.45, -1.14]$

Distractor 1: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros.

- B.  $z_1 \in [-5.19, -4.42], z_2 \in [-3, -1.8]$ , and  $z_3 \in [-0.8, -0.42]$

Distractor 4: Corresponds to moving factors from one rational to another.

- C.  $z_1 \in [1.1, 1.67], z_2 \in [1, 2.5]$ , and  $z_3 \in [2.32, 2.71]$

\* This is the solution!

- D.  $z_1 \in [-2.18, -1.47], z_2 \in [-1.1, -0.6]$ , and  $z_3 \in [-0.62, -0.23]$

Distractor 3: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros AND inversing rational roots.

- E.  $z_1 \in [0.05, 0.53], z_2 \in [0.4, 1.5]$ , and  $z_3 \in [1.95, 2.11]$

Distractor 2: Corresponds to inversing rational roots.

**General Comment:** Remember to try the middle-most integers first as these normally are the zeros. Also, once you get it to a quadratic, you can use your other factoring techniques to finish factoring.

---

23. Factor the polynomial below completely. Then, choose the intervals the zeros of the polynomial belong to, where  $z_1 \leq z_2 \leq z_3$ . *To make the problem easier, all zeros are between -5 and 5.*

$$f(x) = 25x^3 - 45x^2 - 82x - 24$$

The solution is  $[-0.8, -0.4, 3]$ , which is option C.

- A.  $z_1 \in [-3.11, -2.79]$ ,  $z_2 \in [0.24, 0.6]$ , and  $z_3 \in [0.38, 0.88]$

Distractor 1: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros.

- B.  $z_1 \in [-3.11, -2.79]$ ,  $z_2 \in [1.07, 1.31]$ , and  $z_3 \in [2.14, 2.54]$

Distractor 3: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros AND inversing rational roots.

- C.  $z_1 \in [-1.16, -0.39]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-0.67, -0.28]$ , and  $z_3 \in [2.54, 3.27]$

\* This is the solution!

- D.  $z_1 \in [-2.65, -2.14]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-1.42, -1.09]$ , and  $z_3 \in [2.54, 3.27]$

Distractor 2: Corresponds to inversing rational roots.

- E.  $z_1 \in [-3.11, -2.79]$ ,  $z_2 \in [0.09, 0.19]$ , and  $z_3 \in [1.46, 2.4]$

Distractor 4: Corresponds to moving factors from one rational to another.

**General Comment:** Remember to try the middle-most integers first as these normally are the zeros. Also, once you get it to a quadratic, you can use your other factoring techniques to finish factoring.

---

24. Perform the division below. Then, find the intervals that correspond to the quotient in the form  $ax^2 + bx + c$  and remainder  $r$ .

$$\frac{10x^3 - 35x^2 + 42}{x - 3}$$

The solution is  $10x^2 - 5x - 15 + \frac{-3}{x - 3}$ , which is option C.

- A.  $a \in [28, 31]$ ,  $b \in [54, 58]$ ,  $c \in [160, 169]$ , and  $r \in [535, 539]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number rather than bringing the first factor down.

- B.  $a \in [28, 31]$ ,  $b \in [-126, -122]$ ,  $c \in [369, 376]$ , and  $r \in [-1084, -1081]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor AND multiplied the first factor rather than just bringing it down.

- C.  $a \in [5, 15]$ ,  $b \in [-6, -2]$ ,  $c \in [-20, -6]$ , and  $r \in [-5, 1]$ .

\* This is the solution!

- D.  $a \in [5, 15]$ ,  $b \in [-17, -7]$ ,  $c \in [-34, -25]$ , and  $r \in [-20, -12]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number and subtracted rather than adding during synthetic division.

- E.  $a \in [5, 15]$ ,  $b \in [-65, -61]$ ,  $c \in [193, 197]$ , and  $r \in [-545, -541]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor.

**General Comment:** Be sure to synthetically divide by the zero of the denominator! Also, make sure to include 0 placeholders for missing terms.

---

25. Perform the division below. Then, find the intervals that correspond to the quotient in the form  $ax^2 + bx + c$  and remainder  $r$ .

$$\frac{12x^3 - 34x^2 - 10x + 7}{x - 3}$$

The solution is  $12x^2 + 2x - 4 + \frac{-5}{x - 3}$ , which is option C.

- A.  $a \in [31, 39]$ ,  $b \in [71, 77]$ ,  $c \in [211, 218]$ , and  $r \in [643, 650]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number rather than bringing the first factor down.

- B.  $a \in [10, 17]$ ,  $b \in [-11, -8]$ ,  $c \in [-30, -25]$ , and  $r \in [-58, -51]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number and subtracted rather than adding during synthetic division.

- C.  $a \in [10, 17]$ ,  $b \in [-2, 3]$ ,  $c \in [-5, -2]$ , and  $r \in [-6, 0]$ .

\* This is the solution!

- D.  $a \in [10, 17]$ ,  $b \in [-75, -64]$ ,  $c \in [194, 203]$ , and  $r \in [-596, -584]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor.

- E.  $a \in [31, 39]$ ,  $b \in [-148, -138]$ ,  $c \in [415, 418]$ , and  $r \in [-1243, -1237]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor AND multiplied the first factor rather than just bringing it down.

**General Comment:** Be sure to synthetically divide by the zero of the denominator!

---

26. Factor the polynomial below completely, knowing that  $x + 3$  is a factor. Then, choose the intervals the zeros of the polynomial belong to, where  $z_1 \leq z_2 \leq z_3 \leq z_4$ . *To make the problem easier, all zeros are between -5 and 5.*

$$f(x) = 8x^4 + 26x^3 - 37x^2 - 159x - 90$$

The solution is  $[-3, -2, -0.75, 2.5]$ , which is option C.

- A.  $z_1 \in [-1.23, -0.19]$ ,  $z_2 \in [0.77, 1.43]$ ,  $z_3 \in [1.38, 2.29]$ , and  $z_4 \in [2.6, 4.3]$

Distractor 3: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros AND inverting rational roots.

- B.  $z_1 \in [-5.3, -4.32]$ ,  $z_2 \in [0.15, 0.47]$ ,  $z_3 \in [1.38, 2.29]$ , and  $z_4 \in [2.6, 4.3]$

Distractor 4: Corresponds to moving factors from one rational to another.

- C.  $z_1 \in [-3.63, -2.76]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-2.18, -1.85]$ ,  $z_3 \in [-0.83, -0.16]$ , and  $z_4 \in [0.6, 2.9]$

\* This is the solution!

- D.  $z_1 \in [-3.63, -2.76]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-2.18, -1.85]$ ,  $z_3 \in [-1.36, -0.79]$ , and  $z_4 \in [-0.4, 1.4]$

Distractor 2: Corresponds to inverting rational roots.

- E.  $z_1 \in [-2.68, -2.27]$ ,  $z_2 \in [0.61, 0.85]$ ,  $z_3 \in [1.38, 2.29]$ , and  $z_4 \in [2.6, 4.3]$

Distractor 1: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros.

**General Comment:** Remember to try the middle-most integers first as these normally are the zeros. Also, once you get it to a quadratic, you can use your other factoring techniques to finish factoring.

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27. Factor the polynomial below completely, knowing that  $x + 2$  is a factor. Then, choose the intervals the zeros of the polynomial belong to, where  $z_1 \leq z_2 \leq z_3 \leq z_4$ . *To make the problem easier, all zeros are between -5 and 5.*

$$f(x) = 12x^4 - 29x^3 - 33x^2 + 116x - 60$$

The solution is  $[-2, 0.75, 1.667, 2]$ , which is option B.

- A.  $z_1 \in [-2.5, -1.9]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-1.75, -1.65]$ ,  $z_3 \in [-0.91, -0.74]$ , and  $z_4 \in [1, 5]$

Distractor 1: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros.

- B.  $z_1 \in [-2.5, -1.9]$ ,  $z_2 \in [0.67, 0.79]$ ,  $z_3 \in [1.58, 1.81]$ , and  $z_4 \in [1, 5]$

\* This is the solution!

- C.  $z_1 \in [-2.5, -1.9]$ ,  $z_2 \in [0.58, 0.66]$ ,  $z_3 \in [1.23, 1.34]$ , and  $z_4 \in [1, 5]$

Distractor 2: Corresponds to inversing rational roots.

- D.  $z_1 \in [-2.5, -1.9]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-1.42, -1.31]$ ,  $z_3 \in [-0.72, -0.45]$ , and  $z_4 \in [1, 5]$

Distractor 3: Corresponds to negatives of all zeros AND inversing rational roots.

- E.  $z_1 \in [-3.2, -2.7]$ ,  $z_2 \in [-2.01, -1.99]$ ,  $z_3 \in [-0.58, -0.21]$ , and  $z_4 \in [1, 5]$

Distractor 4: Corresponds to moving factors from one rational to another.

**General Comment:** Remember to try the middle-most integers first as these normally are the zeros. Also, once you get it to a quadratic, you can use your other factoring techniques to finish factoring.

28. Perform the division below. Then, find the intervals that correspond to the quotient in the form  $ax^2 + bx + c$  and remainder  $r$ .

$$\frac{20x^3 - 45x^2 - 15x + 45}{x - 2}$$

The solution is  $20x^2 - 5x - 25 + \frac{-5}{x - 2}$ , which is option A.

- A.  $a \in [18, 23]$ ,  $b \in [-8, -2]$ ,  $c \in [-30, -22]$ , and  $r \in [-5, -2]$ .

\* This is the solution!

- B.  $a \in [40, 42]$ ,  $b \in [-130, -123]$ ,  $c \in [233, 239]$ , and  $r \in [-425, -423]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor AND multiplied the first factor rather than just bringing it down.

- C.  $a \in [18, 23]$ ,  $b \in [-87, -83]$ ,  $c \in [152, 156]$ , and  $r \in [-269, -264]$ .

You divided by the opposite of the factor.

- D.  $a \in [18, 23]$ ,  $b \in [-27, -22]$ ,  $c \in [-40, -39]$ , and  $r \in [5, 10]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number and subtracted rather than adding during synthetic division.

- E.  $a \in [40, 42]$ ,  $b \in [31, 36]$ ,  $c \in [52, 57]$ , and  $r \in [155, 161]$ .

You multiplied by the synthetic number rather than bringing the first factor down.

**General Comment:** Be sure to synthetically divide by the zero of the denominator!

29. What are the *possible Rational* roots of the polynomial below?

$$f(x) = 6x^3 + 2x^2 + 2x + 2$$

The solution is All combinations of:  $\frac{\pm 1, \pm 2}{\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 6}$ , which is option C.

A.  $\pm 1, \pm 2$

This would have been the solution **if asked for the possible Integer roots!**

B.  $\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 6$

Distractor 1: Corresponds to the plus or minus factors of a1 only.

C. All combinations of:  $\frac{\pm 1, \pm 2}{\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 6}$

\* This is the solution **since we asked for the possible Rational roots!**

D. All combinations of:  $\frac{\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 6}{\pm 1, \pm 2}$

Distractor 3: Corresponds to the plus or minus of the inverse quotient (an/a0) of the factors.

E. There is no formula or theorem that tells us all possible Rational roots.

Distractor 4: Corresponds to not recalling the theorem for rational roots of a polynomial.

**General Comment:** We have a way to find the possible Rational roots. The possible Integer roots are the Integers in this list.

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30. What are the *possible Integer* roots of the polynomial below?

$$f(x) = 3x^4 + 2x^3 + 6x^2 + 7x + 7$$

The solution is  $\pm 1, \pm 7$ , which is option C.

A. All combinations of:  $\frac{\pm 1, \pm 3}{\pm 1, \pm 7}$

Distractor 3: Corresponds to the plus or minus of the inverse quotient (an/a0) of the factors.

B. All combinations of:  $\frac{\pm 1, \pm 7}{\pm 1, \pm 3}$

This would have been the solution **if asked for the possible Rational roots!**

C.  $\pm 1, \pm 7$

\* This is the solution **since we asked for the possible Integer roots!**

D.  $\pm 1, \pm 3$

Distractor 1: Corresponds to the plus or minus factors of a1 only.

E. There is no formula or theorem that tells us all possible Integer roots.

Distractor 4: Corresponds to not recognizing Integers as a subset of Rationals.

**General Comment:** We have a way to find the possible Rational roots. The possible Integer roots are the Integers in this list.

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